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more plentiful in this thicket than either of the above named species.

At first I had some doubt whether my discovery was *B. simplex* or some nearly related species. But to settle all doubts I had recourse to one better acquainted with the ferns of this country than I, and sent the plant to Prof. L. M. Underwood (whose beautiful work on the subject I have been using). He very kindly confirms my opinion. He said, "Your specimen is a medium sized form of *Botrychium simplex*, which as you say, greatly increases the range of the species as published." In conclusion, I may add that within a radius of two miles from Ellicott City I have found between twenty-five and thirty species of ferns. Among them is one rare one, not already mentioned, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*. Ferns are, indeed, in abundance in the neighborhood of Ellicott City.

JOHN B. EGERTON.

#### Notes on *Melica* and *Poa*.

In the last number of the BULLETIN is an article entitled "Grasses in the Wrong Genus Cover" by Dr. W. J. Beal, in which article two species heretofore ascribed to *Poa* are transferred to *Melica*. I feel obliged to dissent from the views of Dr. Beal and will briefly give my reasons. In the genus *Melica*, so far as I am aware, the flowering glumes are always thicker than the empty glumes, and are generally rounded on the back, at least not compressed and keeled. The characters of *Melica* are well given by Dr. Thurber in Bot. Cal. Vol. 2, p. 302. Describing the flowering glumes (which he calls lower palets) he says: "Lower palet at length subcoriaceous, rounded or flattish on the back, 5 to many-nerved, the scarious tip usually blunt and entire or 2-toothed, &c." Again, "sterile flowers much the smaller and convolute together at the top of the spikelet." In describing *Poa*, he says: "Lower palet herbaceous or membranous, with scarious margins and top, compressed-keeled, &c."

The two *Poas* transferred by Dr. Beal agree with the characters of the genus *Poa* except in the obtuse glumes, and that is subject to much variation in other species of true *Poa*. *Poa macrantha* probably belongs to a group of polygamous or dioi-

cious *Poas* which occur on the Pacific coast from Chili northward. In neither of the species do we find the club-shaped, imperfect, upper flowers common in *Melica*.

GEO. VASEY.

### Review of Foreign Literature.

*Di una nuova stazione Italiana di Galinsoga parviflora, ed Eleusine Indica; e della presenza di altre piante esotiche nelle vicinanze di Verona.* A. Goirau. (Nuovo Giorn. Bot. Italiano, April, 1890).

The following is a list of exotic plants that have been found on the plains of Lombardy, conditions favorable to their existence.

*Galinsoga parviflora*, in and near Verona (1888) and Milan, and elsewhere in Lombardy, where in damp places it has become a weed.

*Commelina communis*, Lombardy.

*Eleusine Indica*. In 1879 *E. Indica* was seen for the first time by M. Goirau in the outskirts of Verona, along the moat and river, growing among rubbish heaps. The next year it had spread in amazing quantities and grew in great luxuriance. In 1882 the plant was seen for the last time, shortly before the great flood of the Adige, which took place that year, after which it disappeared. Prof. de Notaris reports *E. Indica* from the Lago Maggiore; it has also been found in the Province of Bergamo and at Crespano.

*Solanum Sodomæum*, in 1886, had spread from cultivation in and around Verona and along the river. Two forms have been observed, one with lilac and the other with white flowers.

*Stramonium Tatula* is found in the outskirts of the city, probably escaped from cultivation.

*Stramonium Metel* is cultivated as an ornamental plant and is sporadic along with the last.

*Nicandra physaloides*. This beautiful Peruvian Solanacea grows in great quantities along the Adige and the railroad, and has been found at Mantova.

*Tournefortia heliotropioides* is spontaneous in the vicinity of Bologna, in the Parmigiano and near Verona.

*Solidago serotina*, frequently cultivated in gardens, is now be-